THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for secure access and communication of information in a distributed media network, the method comprising:

detecting, at a first geographic location, when a legacy media peripheral is connected to one or both of a PC and a media processing system at said first geographic location within the distributed media network;

~~establishing~~ associating at least one identifier ~~associated~~ with said legacy media peripheral, wherein said ~~established~~ at least one identifier is used to validate said legacy media peripheral for use at said first geographic location; and

utilizing said ~~established~~ at least one identifier to facilitate communication ~~of~~ by ~~an/or~~ and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising requesting said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier and at least one identifier of a user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier is a serial number of said legacy media peripheral.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one user identifier is at least one of a user password and a user name.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, comprising determining said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral and said user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5, comprising associating said legacy media peripheral identifier and said user identifier with said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein if said legacy media peripheral is previously registered at said first geographic location within said network, acquiring said at least one user identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7, comprising validating said acquired at least one user identifier for said legacy media peripheral prior to said facilitation of communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, comprising registering said legacy media peripheral for operation at a second geographic location subsequent to said validation of said acquired at least one user identifier.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising executing a media peripheral association software on said at least one of said PC and said media processing system.

11. (Currently amended) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for secure access and communication of information in a distributed media network, the at least one code section being executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform steps comprising:

detecting, at a first geographic location, when a legacy media peripheral is connected to one or both of a PC and a media processing system at said first geographic location within the distributed media network;

~~establishing~~ associating at least one identifier ~~associated~~ with said legacy media peripheral, wherein said ~~established~~ at least one identifier is used to validate said legacy media peripheral for use at said first geographic location; and

utilizing said ~~established~~ at least one identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

12. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for requesting said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier and at least one identifier of a user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

13. (Original) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, wherein said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier is a serial number of said legacy media peripheral.

14. (Original) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, wherein said at least one user identifier is at least one of a user password and a user name.

15. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, comprising code for determining said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral and said user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

16. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 15, comprising code for associating said legacy media peripheral identifier and said user identifier with said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral.

17. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, comprising code for acquiring said at least one user identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network, if said legacy media peripheral is previously registered at said first geographic location within said network.

18. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 17, comprising code for validating said acquired at least one user identifier for said legacy media peripheral prior to said facilitation of communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

19. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 18, comprising code for registering said legacy media peripheral for operation at a second geographic location subsequent to said validation of said acquired at least one user identifier.

20. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for executing a media peripheral association software on said at least one of said PC and said media processing system.

21. (Currently amended) A system for secure access and communication of information in a distributed media network, the system comprising:

at least one processor that detects, at a first geographic location, when a legacy media peripheral is connected to one or both of a PC and a media processing system at said first geographic location within the distributed media network;

said at least one processor ~~establishes~~ associates at least one identifier ~~associated~~ with said legacy media peripheral, wherein said ~~established~~ at least one identifier is used to validate said legacy media peripheral for use at said first geographic location; and

said at least one processor utilizes said ~~established~~ at least one identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

22. (Original) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor requests said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier and at least one identifier of a user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

23. (Original) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one legacy media peripheral identifier is a serial number of said legacy media peripheral.

24. (Original) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one user identifier is at least one of a user password and a user name.

25. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one processor determines said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral and said user utilizing said legacy media peripheral.

26. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein said at least one processor associates said legacy media peripheral identifier and said user identifier with said first geographic location of said legacy media peripheral.

27. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one processor acquires said at least one user identifier to facilitate communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network, if said legacy media peripheral is previously registered at said first geographic location within said network.

28. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 27, wherein said at least one processor validates said acquired at least one user identifier for said legacy media peripheral prior to said facilitation of communication by and/or to said legacy media peripheral over the distributed media network.

29. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one processor registers said legacy media peripheral for operation at a second geographic location subsequent to said validation of said acquired at least one user identifier.

30. (Original) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor executes a media peripheral association software on said at least one of said PC and said media processing system.

31. (Original) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor is at least one of a computer processor, a media peripheral processor, a media exchange system processor and a media processing system processor.